

Warrior News

Saint Mark Lutheran School extends the love and care of Jesus Christ to all people, while nurturing families and preparing students to integrate faith with life, through quality Christ-centered education.

**Saint Mark Lutheran School
Kaneohe, Hawaii**

May 2014

A Message from the Head of School



Pastor Milton and Mrs. JoAnn Gundermann

It's a bit difficult to believe, but Mrs. Gundermann's nearly 50 year run as Saint Mark's kindergarten teacher is coming to a close. From her exciting weekly field trips, to her highly effective teaching strategies, the seemingly unending energy she has contin-



Mrs. Gundermann's grandson and SMLS alumnus Isaiah Graham speaks at her retirement lu'au on May 10

ued to bring to her ministry is a testament to her character and source of inspiration to us all. Her reputation in the community for bringing sound academic instruction, caring discipline, and the love of Jesus to her students is well known. As U.S. Senator (Ret.) Daniel K. Akaka said in his letter to Mrs. Gundermann, "You have earned the admiration and respect of all who have been fortunate enough to know you and you will be sorely missed."



Mr. Bauchle, Mrs. Gundermann, and Dr. Shultz

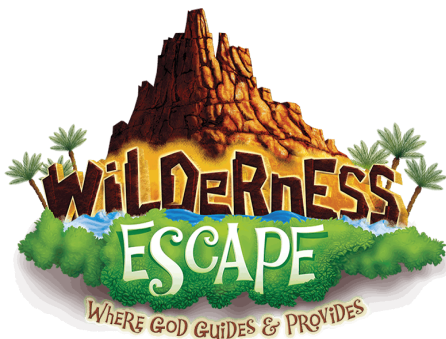
Besides Mrs. Gundermann, we also say good-bye to all of our students who are moving on in addition to two others from our faculty. This year we say good-bye to Mrs. Pelletier who is retiring and Mrs. Brooks who is relocating to Japan. They all will certainly be missed.



Kini Gundermann-Graham, Pastor Milton, and Mrs. JoAnn Gundermann

While we are saying good-bye to some, we are saying hello to others. We happily welcome Mrs. Miriam McMillian in grade 2, Mrs. Vanessa Souki in middle school, and Miss Lorian Pelletier (daughter of Mrs. Pelletier) in middle school. We also welcome Mrs. Gonzalez into kindergarten as she makes the move from grade 2. We are excited to have these well-credentialed and highly-skilled, experienced educators joining the Saint Mark team!

Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark



Caravan with Moses and the Israelites as they escape Egypt and learn to trust God! Register now to be part of this Wilderness Escape Vacation Bible School!

Join us, June 2-6 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., as Moses will tell us how the Israelites learned to trust God as they relied on Him to provide food, protection, and guidance as they traveled to the Promise Land. Ages 4 - entering 5th grade are welcome at \$5 per child.

If interested, please contact Miss Morris at sarah@stmarkhawaii.org or call the church office at 247-4565 or simply register your child today by visiting: <https://www.groupvbapro.com/vbs/HL/saintmark>

Dates to Remember

May 23: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 26: No School - Memorial Day

May 29: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 30: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal with **NO AFTER CARE**

May 30: K-5 Report cards go home with students

June 2-6: Grades 6-8 Report cards mailed home

June 2-6: Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark

June 16-27: Summer Mailing Packets go home

July 29: First Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal **NO AFTERCARE**

August 6: K-5 Back-to-School Orientation at 6:30 p.m.

August 7: Grades 6-8 Back-to-School Orientation at 6:30 p.m.

August 15: No School - Admissions' Day

August 19: Fall School Pictures

September 1: No School - Labor Day

September 12: Fall Family Night

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: So much has happened in Kindergarten in the past 2 months: starting weekly spelling tests like they have in grade 1...inviting the new kindergartners to come and visit...experiencing our first Lei Day program...making gifts and letters for Mother's Day...singing "God's Kids" with the first and second graders...reading to our first grade teacher...visiting the Imaginarium and Aerospace Lab...going on the Kanehunamoku sailing canoe and seeing sea turtles...and especially getting ready for our graduation operetta: lots of speaking parts to learn, songs and dances to perform, and scenery to make. They will be ready to present it to all Saint Mark students and especially to our families on graduation night. It's been a wonderful year.

First Grade: The first graders are looking forward to the special end-of-the-year activities planned. We are learning about different ocean animals through the research and oral reports given by each student. We also had fun planning and preparing for our Mother's Day Tea which happened on May 16th. The children shared some very special surprises with their mothers. We are also collecting donations for our silent auction that will take place on May 23rd. The children have worked hard all year to earn "play money" and this will be a great way to spend it. Our end of the year 1st and 2nd grade celebration will be held at Kailua Beach Park for a fun day in the sun with our families!

Second Grade: The second graders have had a spectacular school year and have learned so much and strengthened friendships with their classmates. These last weeks of school have been filled with special activities such as having a garden sale, performing their hula for May Day, publishing their first class book about their heroes, going swimming at the YMCA, and singing for their parents at the Spring Cantata. The second graders are looking forward to their end of the year celebration at the beach, meeting their third grade teacher, and spending their class money during a silent auction. The "almost third graders" are sad to leave second grade but are looking forward to new learning and adventures as they move ahead to third grade!



Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: The third grade students started off the month of April by learning fractions and measuring perimeter and areas. We have had lots of fun writing persuasive and expressive paragraphs and learning how to edit our own work. The students came up with the idea to start their own book & poem clubs! In art, we have been illustrating books. We started May by performing our hula in homemade ti leaf skirts which many students had a part in making. In choir, we learned some



Grade 4 students at Akaka Falls during their recent trip to the Big Island of Hawai'i

new Spanish & Hawaiian words in a few of our songs.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders had an exciting and educational trip to the Big Island of Hawaii! We got to see it all; from beautiful waterfalls to steaming sulfur vents. We learned more about our Hawaiian culture and how the land and the sea were very important to life back then. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience that the students and chaperones should not soon forget. Thanks to all who helped make it so successful.

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: California, Massachusetts, Idaho...For our fifth grade study about the United States, our students have each selected one state to learn about and present to the rest of the class. They will be utilizing their skills in research, technolo-

WE ♥ SCHOOL!

gy, organization, and oral language as well as visual design to complete their state project. We will end our study by learning all the fifty states and abbreviations. Hopefully, one day, they'll get to visit all of them!



Grade 5 State Project on Georgia

Classroom News - Middle School

Mrs. Brook's News:

Sixth grade Bible students are learning about Paul's Letters. Last month, our chapel was on God's will. We presented two skits to support our message of how to determine God's will for us.

Eighth grade algebra students are currently factoring trinomials and will finish up the year with quadratic equations.

In **Seventh grade Science** students are finishing up the unit on the human body systems. Students will play the role of teacher and will present a system with their choice of PowerPoint, Prezi or other visual aides and will be conducting an activity with the rest of the students.

Seventh grade math students have been learning about different shapes, computing area, volume as well as using the Pythagorean Theorem to find all sides of a triangle.

Eighth grade science students just concluded our unit on forces where we talked about Newton's First, Second and Third Laws of Motion. We will finish up the year learning about energy, energy transformation and conservation.

Sixth grade science students are making travel brochures for different planets in our Solar System. If you would like to travel to another planet, please ask them about the interesting attractions!

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh grade Bible is finishing a year-long study of the gospel of John with a detailed account of Christ's passion for us. We are so fortunate to benefit from His sacrifice for us while rejoicing in His resurrection. Alleluia! He is risen indeed!

The **seventh grade English** students have been researching a country and should be able to answer detailed questions on the history, government, geography, economy, cities & population, and culture of their chosen country.

Eighth grade English class has focused on historical fictions this quarter: they each wrote a historic fiction story and are now preparing to present a historical fiction book report through power point.

The **pre-algebra** students are wrapping up a chapter on geometry. They have conquered some basic construction using merely a compass and a straight edge and have created beautiful tessellations using translations, rotations, and slides.

Sixth grade math students have mastered operations with integers and will never again let those annoying negatives confuse them.

Mrs. Pelletier's News:

Students are wrapping things up for the year in the middle school. **Sixth grade social studies** students are writing their second research paper on a social studies topic, getting dressed up for an oral character book report, and reading *Journey Home*, about Japanese American internment during WWII.

Seventh grade is finishing their country research paper while studying China, Japan, and India. **Eighth grade** completed a historical fiction paper and is covering WWII,



The 2014 May Day Court

the Cold War, and the Korean War. They are also getting excited about graduation - picking a class Bible verse and deciding how they will be celebrating together after the graduation ceremony. It's been an eventful year, full of God's blessings. Mahalo for your support!

Miss Morris' News:

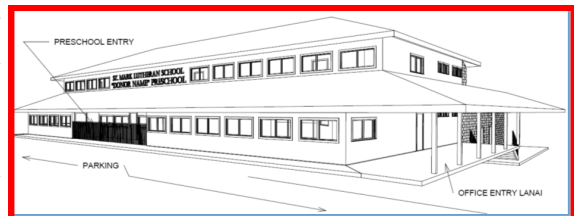
Good job middle schoolers on your hard work in PE this year! Be sure to keep running, exercising, and participating in sports over the summer. Stay active and get ready for some more PE fun next year!



Building for the Future - Early Education Facility !



As was officially announced in the February/March newsletter, Saint Mark Church and School have kicked-off a multi-year endeavor to raise money for the construction of a new early education building on the footprint of the current administrative offices, kindergarten room, and computer room. Preliminary plans call for the new building to include three pre-school classrooms, library, technology center, meeting rooms and administrative offices.



Preliminary Rendering of the Future Early Education Facility

The fundraising efforts have gotten off to a great start, but we need everyone's help to bring our plans to fruition. Our most immediate and pressing goal is to **raise \$100,000 by this December**. Please call the school office to set up a meeting with Mr. Gaudi to learn more about how you can support this very important project. Mahalo Nui Loa!

PTC Generosity

A **BIG Mahalo** goes to the SMLS PTC (Parent Teacher Committee) for all of their hard work and generosity throughout the school year. Some of the highlights of their service to Saint Mark include: working in support of the gala fundraiser, totally organizing the rummage sale, purchasing six new school picnic benches and a new PA system, and treating the entire faculty and staff to a wonderful teacher appreciation lunch complete with goodie bags and gifts cards. Mahalo to the PTC for their consistent and generous support of Saint Mark! It is truly appreciated!



Athletics



JV basketball has ended with both the boys and girls having a great season of fun and learning. Many thanks to **Coach Kuulei** for all of her time and patience working with our young athletes.

Our annual Athletic Banquet was a wonderful night honoring all of our student athletes. Congratulations to all and especially to our Scholar Athletes **Sage Iona** and **Koby Tengan**. Mahalo nui loa to **Mrs. Denise Warrington** who planned, organized, and coordinated the banquet.

Our last athletic "season" of the year is underway...kickball! All interested kindergarten-3rd graders are having fun learning the game and playing with students from other grades. We have four teams this year as 64 students signed up to join in the fun. Many thanks to our coaches **Miss Gerling**, **Mrs. Schroppe**, **Mrs. Pelletier**, and **Mrs. Kong** and especially to our pitcher/umpire **Christian Schroppe** (son of Mrs. Schroppe).

Check out SMLS ...



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



The PTC thanks everyone for another wonderful school year and is looking forward to working with Cissy Shaner to plan and execute the

5th Annual Benefit Gala on Saturday, November 8, 2014

The next PTC meeting will be in June to discuss the plans for the gala fundraiser. Please be on the lookout for an email announcing the date and time of the meeting.



This & That

Please do not wait to the last minute to purchase next year's school uniforms. Call **Campus Creation** at 484-9191 to inquire or place an order.



Grade 1 and 2 students had an extremely successful Garden Sale

Our heartfelt thanks goes to **Mrs. Cameline**. As a result of her hard work, Saint Mark Lutheran School received \$2,331 from Box Tops for Education.

Office hours during the **summer break** will be Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Our **last day of school** is **Friday, May 30th** with an early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. and **no aftercare**.

The **first day of school** for the upcoming 2014-2015 school year is **Tuesday, July 29th** with an early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. and **no aftercare**.

We bid farewell to our **graduating eighth graders** as they begin their journey to high school. Some of the schools these students will be attending are: Hawaii Baptist Academy, Kamehameha, Le Jardin, Lutheran High, Saint Francis, Maryknoll, Punahou, and 'Iolani. Congratulations!!!



As many of you know our church takes part in the **Family Promise** program, providing meals and housing for some of Hawaii's less fortunate families. The two week Family Promise rotation begins on



Sunday, June 8 and ends on the 22. We can always use help with breakfasts, dinners, serving as overnight hosts, or donating fruit, snack items, juice or activity supplies for children such as color-

ing books, games, cards, etc. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact **Kristin Lim** at 808-391-3908 or Yalkris@aol.com. Mahalo Nui Loa!